

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-8. (Canceled).

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) The driver device of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 11, wherein the feedback loop includes a phase-locked loop.

11. (Previously Presented) The driver device for a voltage-controlled oscillator, comprising:

an unstable voltage source;

a voltage regulator;

a driver to generate a control voltage for the oscillator; and

a feedback loop to control the driver as a function of an output signal of the oscillator;

and

wherein the voltage regulator supplies the feedback loop with operating voltage, while the driver is powered by the unregulated voltage of the voltage source, and the feedback loop compensates for voltage fluctuations of the voltage source with the aid of the driver, and

wherein the feedback loop receives an intermediate-frequency signal, which is formed by mixing the output signal of the oscillator with a reference signal having a fixed frequency, and the feedback loop compares the phase of the intermediate-frequency signal to the phase of a reference signal and controls the driver based on the comparison result so that a frequency of the oscillator follows a frequency of the reference signal.

12. (Currently Amended) The driver device of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 11, wherein the control voltage for the oscillator is greater than the operating voltage for the feedback loop supplied by the voltage regulator.

13. (Currently Amended) The driver device of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 11, wherein a filter circuit is inserted between the voltage source and the driver.

14. (Previously Presented) The driver device of claim 13, wherein the filter circuit includes a voltage-limiting function.

15. (Previously Presented) The driver device of claim 13, wherein at least the filter circuit and the driver take the form of separate components.

16. (Canceled).